

***Please forward this information to your principals and school councils!



KDE-mail

SBDM Council News

February 6, 2006

Welcome!

Division Director's Notes

Our division staff is in the process of reviewing and updating our planning tools and documents. During that process, we have had occasions to share a message from the commissioner sent to superintendents regarding planning, and we want to revisit that message and it's meaning. It is critical that districts use their valuable time and resources to create one district improvement plan, and that each school does the same, integrating state and federal requirements for closing achievement gaps as they reach proficiency.

As you know, Kentucky's achievement gap legislation (SB 168), now known as KRS 158.649, became effective on July 15, 2002. In addition, KRS 160.345(3) already required each local board of education to establish policy on the form and function of school improvement planning for school councils to follow, which includes how schools in each district will handle the requirements of KRS 158.649. School board policies on planning should already be updated to reflect these changes.

By February 1, 2005 all school councils set the school's biennial targets for eliminating any achievement gaps and submit them to the superintendent for consideration. Superintendents met with schools to agree on new or continuing gap targets in the school improvement plans. School councils were not required to include targets for each subpopulation in each content area in their improvement plans.

Additionally, by April 1, 2005 all school councils were to review and revise a school improvement plan that addressed achievement gap targets. This plan can also simultaneously address Annual Reading and Math targets for No Child Left Behind.



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Schools not meeting targets under KRS 158.649 are to submit a revised school improvement plan to the superintendent for review and approval based on the timeline set in local board policy. The improvement plans for these schools must describe the use of professional development funds and funds allocated for continuing education to reduce the schools' achievement gap(s). These school plans must also address how the school will meet the academic needs of the targeted population of students.

Annual Measurable Objectives for Title 1 schools are represented in the Annual Yearly Progress Reports as "percent proficient" each year. Although local board policy can determine how achievement gap targets for KRS 158.649 are set for the district, the Kentucky Department of Education, in keeping with our statewide goals, recommends that schools and districts consider using *percent proficient* to set targets as we strive to reach proficiency by 2014.

For any questions contact Erin McGee at Erin.McGee@education.ky.gov or 502-564-4201.

School Council Allocations

Administrative regulation 702 KAR 3:246 requires local school districts to provide to school councils an allocation of funds for the next budget year by March 1 of each year. The Kentucky Department of Education no longer requires the submission of School Council Allocation forms either to the web or to the Division of School Finance. However, the School Council Allocation Worksheets and instructions for your use are located on the KDE website. Districts should make the worksheet information available to staff, SBDM Councils and other stakeholders. Districts are required to retain sufficient documentation to verify allocations to councils.

Districts should review their staffing policies in order to accommodate proposed salary increases for 2007. Any revisions of staffing policy or guidelines for the next school year should be submitted to Judith Littleton, 17th Floor, Division of Leadership and Instruction by March 1.

If you have questions contact Sydney Lawson at Sydney.Lawson@education.ky.gov or (502) 564-3846 or Judith Littleton at Judith.Littleton@education.ky.gov or 502-564-4201.

[KDE website](#)
[School council allocation worksheets](#)

[2006-2007 SEEK forecast](#)

School Improvement Planning

School improvement planning is one of the most important things that your councils and school communities do during the school calendar. It is the process that drives what you do for children throughout the year. Planning is all about teaching and learning, and as the SBDM Coordinator it is important that you communicate that message to your schools. KDE recommends that schools involve all stakeholder groups in the process and also have knowledge of their district planning requirements. For more information or to download the new district and school planning documents, visit the KDE planning website or contact Erin McGee at Erin.McGee@education.ky.gov or 502-564-4201.

[KDE Planning Webpage](#)

